

**REMARKS**

Claim 14 has been rejected under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite. Applicants have amended the claim to remove this rejection.

Claims 1-3, 8-13, and 15-17 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Thorn (US4957279). Applicants have amended independent claim 1 as per the included claim amendments to remove this rejection. Thorn (US4957279) does not disclose the use of an elastomer with an internal lubricant. The present claims are not anticipated by Thorn (US4957279).

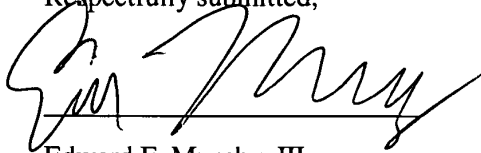
Claims 1-17 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Thorn (US4957279) in view of Majumdar et al (US5503940). As noted in the Office Action of Record, Thorn does not disclose a natural rubber cured by sulfur reinforced by carbon black and has octadecanoic acid as a lubricant. The Office Action of Record states that "It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the rubber as taught by Majumdar et al in the mount of Thorn as material selection is merely a design choice". Applicants contend that using the rubber of Majumdar as set forth in the rejection would not be obvious, in that Majumdar teaches using its compositions as an elastomeric adhesive composition or cushion which binds elastomeric layers together in the making of tires or retread tires, with the rubber of Majumdar providing inherent adhesive properties without the need of any solvent or other adhesive composition. The rubber of Majumdar is taught as being an adhesive rubber and not an elastomer with an internal lubricant which bleeds to a surface to form a dry slippery film, and such an internal lubricant bleeding to the surface to form a dry slippery film would not be useful in Majumdar's tire retread adhesive rubber. The proposed combination of Thorn and Majumdar is not proper or obvious. Additionally the proposed combination of Thorn and Majumdar does not result in a mount as now claimed and does not render the

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present claims obvious.

Applicants have amended the claims as shown and added new claim 18 to overcome the rejections in the Office Action. Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-18.

Applicants herein request an extension of time for this response to the Office Action. The Examiner is authorized to charge deposit account 12-2143 the amount required for a three-month extension of time (\$930) from April 2, 2003 to July 2, 2003 for filing a response to the Office Action, and to charge the deposit account for any other fees that may be due for this amendment and/or the patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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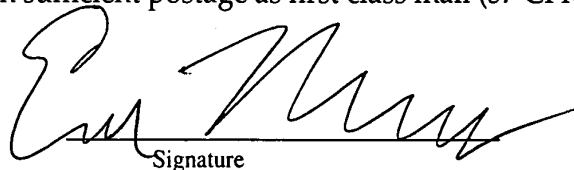
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on JUNE 27 2003 with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, with sufficient postage as first class mail (37 CFR 1.8(a)).

Edward F. Murphy, III  
Person Mailing Paper

  
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